The Sister Study
Special Survey

Instructions:
- Please use DARK BLUE OR BLACK BALLPOINT PEN.
- Do not write comments on the form.
- Please keep this questionnaire clean, flat, and dry.
- Do not fold or tear any of the pages.

Fill in the bubbles COMPLETELY for each of the questions in this form.

Like this: ☐  Not like this: ☑ ☑

If you must change an answer, please mark a single horizontal line through it and bubble in the correct answer completely.

Like this: ☑ YES  Not like this: ☑ ☑ YES

Please write responses without touching the sides of the boxes.  Like this: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

This is a one-time survey that asks questions about your experiences having a sister who had breast cancer and your beliefs about breast cancer. The survey is being done as a partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.

Your continued participation in the Sister Study is completely voluntary and greatly appreciated. Some questions may be personal or sensitive. All of your answers will be kept confidential. However, if you are not comfortable answering a question, just skip it and go on to the next one.

Please mark the category that best describes your response. Try not to let your response to one question influence your responses to other questions. Answer according to your own feelings, rather than how you think “most people” would answer. Don’t take too long thinking over your replies; your immediate reaction will probably be more accurate than a long, thought-out response.

If you have more than one sister who had breast cancer, please think only about one sister in particular while answering these questions.

Please write the name or initials of that sister here:

_________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________  __________________________

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to: NIH, Project Clearance Branch, 6705 Rockledge Drive, MSC 7974, Bethesda, MD 20892-7974, ATTN: PRA (0925-0522). Do not return the completed form to this address.
1. Have you ever been diagnosed with breast cancer?
   ○ Yes ▶ STOP! There are no further questions. Thank you!
   ○ No ▶ Please continue with question 2.

2. Have you talked with your doctor about what your family history of breast cancer might mean for your own health and cancer risk?
   ○ No ▶ Go to question 4
   ○ Yes, we've talked about this a little
   ○ Yes, we've talked about this in depth

3. Has a doctor or other health professional ever told you that you have...

   a. a higher chance of getting breast cancer than other women your age?
      Yes | No
   b. a higher chance of getting ovarian cancer than other women your age?
      Yes | No

4. How satisfied are you with the level of communication you have had with your doctor about your family's history of cancer and your own cancer risk?
   ○ Very satisfied
   ○ Satisfied
   ○ Neither
   ○ Dissatisfied
   ○ Very dissatisfied

5. Has a doctor or other health professional ever recommended or referred you to get genetic counseling because of your family history of cancer?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No

Genetic counseling involves a discussion with a trained genetic counselor about your family’s health history.
6. Have you ever received genetic counseling because of your family history of cancer?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No

7. Has any member of your family, who you are related to by blood, ever received genetic counseling related to cancer?
   ○ Yes
   ○ No
   ○ Don’t know

**BRCA1 and BRCA2 are genes in a person’s DNA that are associated with the risk of breast and ovarian cancer. There are genetic tests for mutations in BRCA1 and BRCA2, requiring a blood or saliva sample, that can provide information about your risk for these cancers.**

8. Have you ever had a BRCA1 or BRCA2 genetic test?
   ○ Yes  ▶  9. Did your BRCA1 or BRCA2 test result indicate an increased risk for cancer?
       ○ Yes
       ○ Inconclusive result
       ○ No
       ○ Don’t know

   ○ No
   ○ Don’t know  ▶  Go to question 10

10. Has any member of your family, who you are related to by blood, ever had a BRCA1 or BRCA2 genetic test?
    ○ Yes  ▶  11. Did any of those family members have a BRCA1 or BRCA2 test result that indicated an increased risk for cancer?
         ○ Yes
         ○ Inconclusive result
         ○ No
         ○ Don’t know

    ○ No
    ○ Don’t know  ▶  Go to question 12
A breast self-exam is a method of examining the appearance and feel of your breasts for suspicious lumps or changes.

Please choose the best response for each of the following.

12. Do you perform breast self-exams on a regular basis?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No
   - □ Don't know
   - Go to question 14

13. Approximately how often do you perform a breast self-exam?
   - □ Weekly
   - □ Monthly
   - □ Every couple of months
   - □ Every 6 months
   - □ Yearly

14. Have you ever been taught how to give yourself a breast self-exam?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

15. Have you ever gone to your doctor because you felt a lump during a breast self-exam?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No

A breast MRI, or magnetic resonance image, shows the inside of the breast, like a mammogram, but does not require squeezing the breast. Before getting a breast MRI, you are given a dye through a needle in the arm. During the MRI procedure, you lie on your stomach and the bed moves into a tunnel-shaped machine.

16. Have you ever had a breast MRI?
   - □ Yes
   - □ No
   - □ Don't know
   - Go to question 18

17. What was the reason for your most recent breast MRI? (Mark all that apply.)
   - □ I had an abnormal mammogram
   - □ I had a lump or other breast problem
   - □ My healthcare provider told me I was high risk
   - □ My family history of breast cancer
   - □ I have dense breasts
   - □ I requested it
   - □ Other, specify: __________________________
   - □ Don't know
18. Is the sister you previously named still living?

○ Yes  ▶ Go to question 22

○ No  ▶

19. Did she die from breast cancer or another cause?

○ Breast cancer
○ Another cause
○ Don’t know

20. How old was she when she died?

21. How old were you at the time of her death?

Please choose the best response for each of the following.

22. How close is (was) your relationship with this sister?

○ Not close
○ A little close
○ Close
○ Very close

23. How much...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Not at all</th>
<th>Very little</th>
<th>Somewhat</th>
<th>Very much</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. do you believe you resemble(d) this sister physically?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. do you believe you resemble(d) this sister in terms of personality?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>c. has this sister’s breast cancer affected how you think about your own health?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<td>24.</td>
<td>Please choose the best response for each of the following. How often...</td>
<td>Never</td>
<td>Rarely</td>
<td>Sometimes</td>
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<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>did you spend time talking with this sister before she was diagnosed with breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>do you (did you) spend time talking with this sister during her breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>do you (did you) help take care of this sister during her breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>do you (did you) accompany this sister to her doctor’s appointments and treatments related to her breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>do you (did you) talk with this sister about her breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>do you think about this sister’s experience with breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>do you (did you) spend time talking with friends or family members about your concerns about this sister’s breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
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</table>

25. Do you have at least one daughter?

- ○ No  ▶ Go to question 28
- ○ Yes  ▶

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>26.</th>
<th>Have you ever...</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>talked to your daughter(s) about your family history of breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>talked to your daughter(s) about things she could do to help prevent breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>been concerned about your daughter’s breast cancer risk because of your family history of breast cancer?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

27. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statement?

- ○ Strongly disagree
- ○ Disagree
- ○ Agree
- ○ Strongly agree

The next few questions measure your beliefs about breast cancer and the impact of having a breast cancer in your family.

28. Please choose the best response for each of the following. Compared to most women your age, what would you say your chances are for developing...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th>Much lower</th>
<th>Lower</th>
<th>About the same</th>
<th>Higher</th>
<th>Much higher</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>breast cancer in your lifetime?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>ovarian cancer in your lifetime?</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
29. How much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

| a. There's not much I can do to lower my chances of getting breast cancer. |   |   |   |   |
| b. My family history of breast cancer makes me try to live a healthier lifestyle. |   |   |   |   |
| c. I have someone I trust that I can talk to about my concerns about developing breast cancer. |   |   |   |   |
| d. Getting breast cancer would be a very serious problem. |   |   |   |   |
| e. I think about breast cancer more than most diseases. |   |   |   |   |
| f. Getting breast cancer is often in the back of my mind. |   |   |   |   |
| g. I am often bothered by thoughts or worry about my chances of getting breast cancer. |   |   |   |   |
| h. There's not much I can do to lower my chances of getting ovarian cancer. |   |   |   |   |
| i. Getting ovarian cancer would be a very serious problem. |   |   |   |   |
| j. I am often bothered by thoughts or worry about my chances of getting ovarian cancer. |   |   |   |   |
| k. Routine mammograms are likely to do more harm than good. |   |   |   |   |
| l. Medical care is likely to do more harm than good. |   |   |   |   |

30. For each of the following statements, choose whether you believe it would generally increase, have no effect on, or decrease a woman's chances of developing breast cancer.  

| a. Exercising for 30 to 60 minutes most days of the week. |   |   |   |   |
| b. Eating a low-fat diet. |   |   |   |   |
| c. Eating more servings of fruits and vegetables per day. |   |   |   |   |
| d. Gaining weight after menopause. |   |   |   |   |
| e. Drinking one glass of red wine per day. |   |   |   |   |
| f. Drinking more than one alcoholic beverage per day. |   |   |   |   |
| g. Being exposed to chemicals or toxins in the environment. |   |   |   |   |
| h. Using hormone replacement therapy after menopause. |   |   |   |   |
30. For each of the following statements, choose whether you believe it would generally increase, have no effect on, or decrease a woman's chances of developing breast cancer.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Increase</th>
<th>No effect</th>
<th>Decrease</th>
<th>Don't know</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>i. Using oral contraceptives (birth control).</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j. A blow or other injury to the breast.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
k. A stressful life. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
l. A history of breast cancer on her mother's side of the family. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
m. A history of breast cancer on her father's side of the family. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
n. A history of ovarian cancer on her mother's side of the family. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
o. A history of ovarian cancer on her father's side of the family. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

31. Since your sister's diagnosis with breast cancer, do you participate in any of the following more often, about as often, or less often than you did before she was diagnosed?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>More often</th>
<th>About as often</th>
<th>Less often</th>
<th>Didn't do before and don't do now</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a. Exercise regularly.</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
<td>○</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
b. Eat healthy foods. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
c. Drink alcoholic beverages. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
d. Smoke cigarettes or use tobacco products. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
e. Take vitamins or supplements. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
f. Get regular health check-ups. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
g. Perform breast self-exams. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
h. Get regular mammograms. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
i. Get regular breast ultrasounds. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |
j. Get regular breast MRIs. | ○ | ○ | ○ | ○ |

Please check to see that all questions are answered.

Thank you for completing this questionnaire and for your continued participation in the Sister Study. Please mail this form to us at the address below. A postage-paid envelope is provided.

The Sister Study, 1009 Slater Road, Suite 120, Durham, NC 27703
phone: 1-877-4SISTER (1-877-474-7837); email: update@sisterstudy.org